

“I adore the colour pink because Angelina Jolie likes pink. “

“I must study hard and get good results for my end-of-year examinations so that I can go for Super Junior’s concert!”

“What did you say? Oh please, that is so common now, there is no reason to be freaked out. After all, nearly all my favourite Korean actresses have gone under the knife...”

By any chance, do all these sound familiar to you? Or...have you been guilty of making a similar statement? I have to admit, I am one of those guilty ones. But, I am not alone.

From my personal experiences and observations of the people around me, I have come to the conclusion that people’s idols can change one’s opinions, likes and dislikes and even behavior. The only difference might be the degree of this change that varies from person to person.

Last year, I started loving a particular Korean girl group. It was also then, when I started to get familiarized with the Korean entertainment industry where there were so many flawless-looking female and male stars. However, do you also know that Korea makes up some of the countries in the world that has the highest rate of plastic surgeries? So not surprisingly, many of Korea’s movie stars, singers ... had gone under the knife once or even several times. Whenever I see a beautiful Korean female star on television, I cannot help but wonder if she has gone under the knife too. And then, if someone says, “Yes, she isn’t natural” I would not be surprised.

So, if you asked me, what is one major change that has occurred to me because of my idols? I would say my view on plastic surgery. I used to think that only weird and insecure people would do something so drastic as to change the way they look. However, since the day I realized some of the members in my favourite Korean girl group had had plastic surgery too, my personal opinions on plastic surgery gradually took a different direction. Now, I believe that he or she must have their reasons for doing so and it will be good if we can respect their decisions. If one plastic surgery can instantly boost a person’s self-confidence by a hundred times over, then why not? It might be for the better after all.

In addition, my idols serve as a form of motivation. Whenever I feel like giving up on a piece of academic work, either because I feel so tired or it is just too difficult, I will remind myself that in order to go for their fan-meeting session or to be able to buy their music album, I have to produce good academic results.

Thus, you can see how my idols have evolved my some of my past opinions and even motivated me to work harder in the academic field. That is why I strongly believe that idols can change a part of us, be it our opinions, attitude towards a thing, an issue and others.

